issues - Labor
Labor
Throughout her tenure in the U.S. House of Representatives, Congresswoman Slaughter has distinguished herself as a leader on issues of concern to working Americans. Below are just a few of the labor-related issues where Congresswoman Slaughter has been an active voice for the rights of workers.
Protecting Access to Overtime Pay
In the 108th Congress, Congresswoman Slaughter fought to ensure that America's workers receive fair compensation when they work more than 40-hours in a week. Rep. Slaughter views access to overtime pay as a vital wage and hour issue that has significant financial impact on middle-class families. Below are some of the key actions that Congresswoman Slaughter took on this issue:
Worked to defeat legislation that would allow employers to substitute compensation time for overtime pay by organizing a worker rally in the district and Washington.
Wrote to the Department of Labor in opposition to proposed rules that threaten access to overtime pay for 8 million American workers and voted to bar the Department of Labor from enforcing the new overtime rule and organized a worker rally in the district to bring attention to fight against the overtime rules.
Supporting the Right of Workers to Organize and Bargain

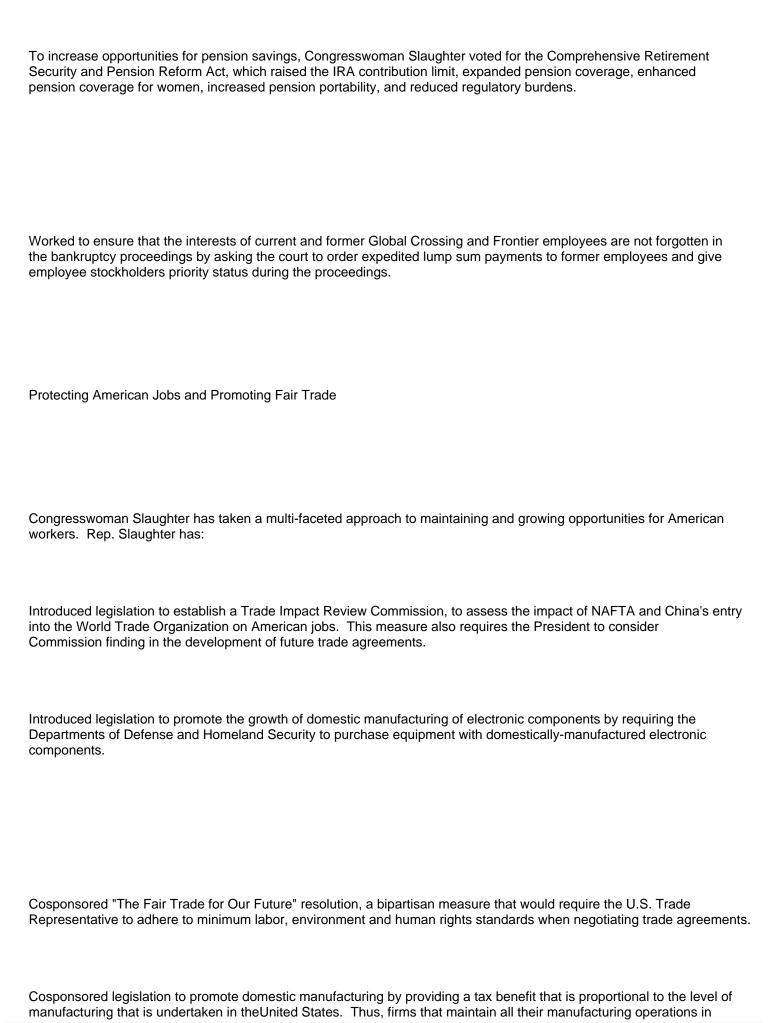
Congresswoman Slaughter's longstanding commitment to workers' rights to organize and collectively bargain in both the public and private sectors has been recognized time and again. In fact, the AFL-CIO has consistently ranked Congresswoman Slaughter's voting record at 100%. Here are some highlights from Rep. Slaughter's record:

- Cosponsoring of the Employee Right to Choose Act, legislation to simplifyworkers' ability to organize by establishing a "card check" process where a unionis certified when a majority of workers sign authorization cards. This measurewould increase penalties for employers that intimidate or fire workers for union activity.
- Supporting legislation to prohibit employers from permanently replacing striking workers, thereby ensuring that the lines of communication between labor andmanagement stay open during disputes, fostering the kind of cooperativepartnership between workers and employers envisioned by the National LaborRelations Act (NLRA).
- Opposed legislation to allow companies to discriminate against workers who helporganize a union. She opposed efforts to interfere with the ability of unions toeducate members about issues impacting their jobs and families as well as effortsto prohibit the National Labor Relations Board from protecting worker rights through injunctions and certain investigations.
- Has been a strong protector of the Davis-Bacon Act, which ensures that workers employed in federal contract construction receive not less than the locallyprevailing wage. She is also an original cosponsor of legislation to overturnPresident Bush's Executive Order 13202, which prohibits the use of project laboragreements on any federally funded construction project.
- Cosponsored a bill to improve compliance with labor and workplace safety laws by providing that firms that violate these laws may be ineligible for federalprocurement and assistance programs.
- Cosponsored a bill to allow collective bargaining rights for public safetyemployees employed by the states. She is also a cosponsor of legislation to require public-private competition before work is taken from federal sectoremployees and given to outside contractors.

**Protecting Retirement Savings** 

Congresswoman Slaughter has consistently supported legislation to broaden the level of retirement savings by workers and enhance federal protection of that savings. The bankruptcy filing of Global Crossing, on the heels of the Enron Corporation's sudden collapse, has brought to light the vulnerabilities of our current pension laws. To enhance pension security and savings, Representative Slaughter has:

Voted in favor of legislation to enhance pension protections to give employees extensive control over their money in 401(k) plans, subject executive compensation to bankruptcy claims, and require employee notification when executives dump company stock, among other provisions. Congresswoman Slaughter voted against proposals to allow corporations to raid the pension funds relied upon by workers and cosponsored legislation to protect older workers' pensions.



the U.S. would receive 100% of the benefit whereas businesses that only undertake 25% of their manufacturing in the United States would only get 25% of the benefit.
Cosponsored legislation to proved job opportunities in the agricultural sector and a stable legal workforce.
Supports efforts to prevent plans to privatize nearly one half of the federal workforce, opposed the Administration's decision to reduce the pay of federal employees and efforts to decrease civil service protections.
Supports the Emergency Steel Guaranteed Loan Program and steel tariffs against foreign producers to stabilize domestic steel manufacturing.
Working to Prevent Workplace Injuries and Promote Safety
Congresswoman Slaughter was one of the chief opponents of the bill that repealed Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) ergonomics standard in 2001. Additionally, Congresswoman Slaughter voted against slashing the workplace safety and health budget.
Working to Protect Against Unfair Labor Practices
Congresswoman Slaughter opposed legislation to give the President greater "trade promotion authority" in negotiating international agreements because it would weaken Congress' ability to address important labor concerns. She has also:
- Supported the Stop Sweatshops Act, a bill to make garment manufacturers andretailers liable for labor violations committed by their contractors and subcontractors. More recently, she joined with House colleagues to remind the organizers of the FIFA World Cup competition of their earlier commitment to refrain from acquiring apparel and

equipment that are produced in sweatshops.

- Supported a bill to enforce fair labor practices in the Northern Mariana Islands, acommonwealth of the United States, where manufacturers were paying far lessthan minimum wage but labeling garments as "Made in the USA."
- Cosponsored a bill to prevent employers from classifying workers as independent contractors to avoid paying employment taxes and being subject to other federallabor laws.
- Is cosponsoring a bill to require an employer to provide written notification to anemployee when purchasing life insurance on the life of the employee anddesignates a beneficiary other than the individual who is the subject of the policy.
- Is cosponsoring legislation to exempt from federal taxation backpay and frontpayreceived when employees prevail in suits against employers for unlawfuldiscrimination.

Worker Training and Assistance

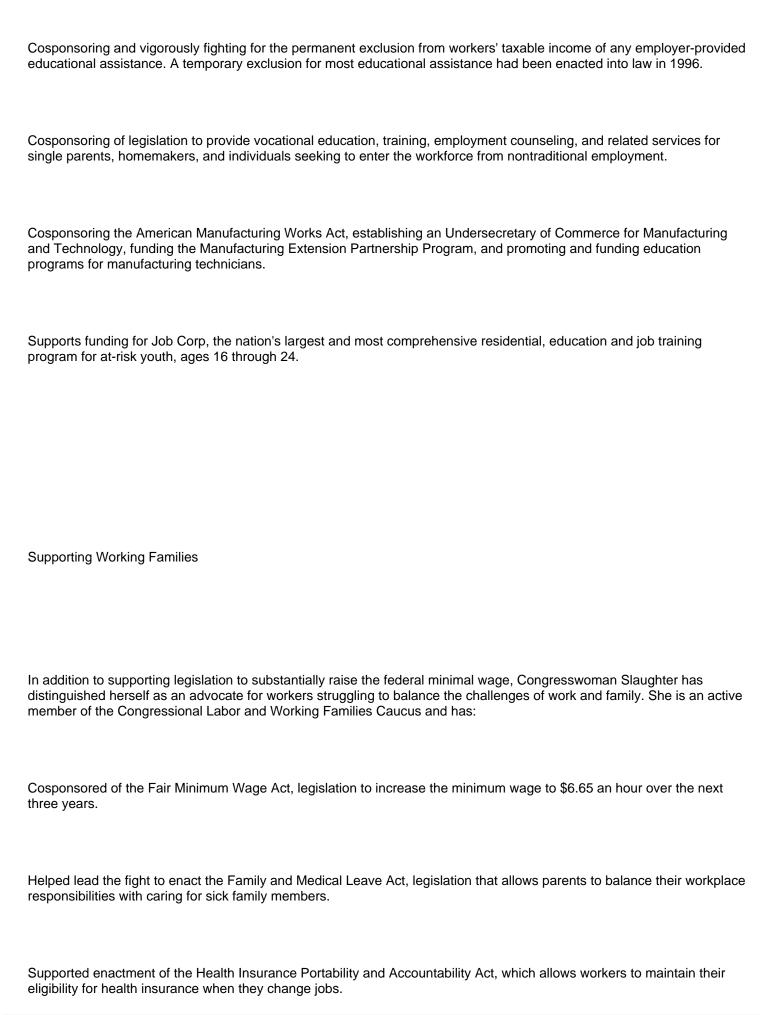
In an effort to ensure that American workers remain competitive, Congresswoman Slaughter has been a strong proponent of federal training and education programs. Her actions included:

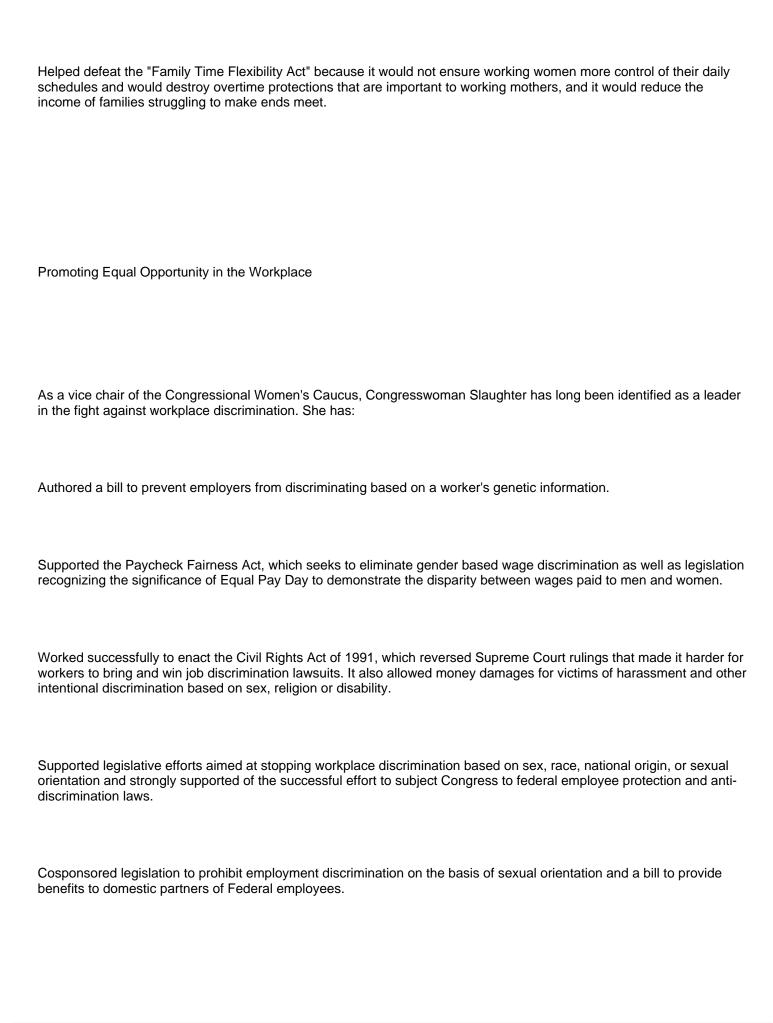
Opposing cutting 9.5% of the Workforce Investment Act's funding, as proposed in President Bush's budget. Congresswoman Slaughter is a strong supporter of the Workforce Investment Act, which provides comprehensive job placement and re-training services to dislocated workers at coordinated "One-Stop" centers.

To ensure that workers harmed by international trade get the income support and training they need, cosponsoring a bill to reform the Trade Adjustment Assistance program by extending income support from 52 to 78 weeks and broadening the eligibility criteria.

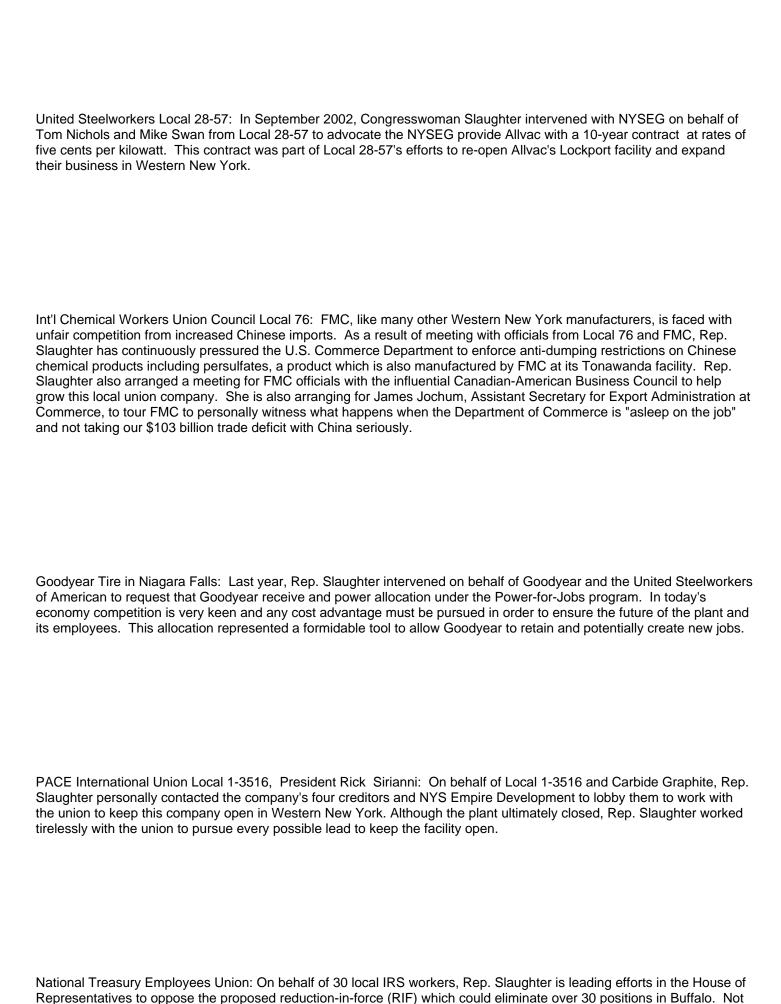
Cosponsoring of the Regional Skills Alliances Act, legislation to create a Labor Department grant program to support regional alliances made up of local labor, business and political leaders working together to improve job skills for employment in specific industries.

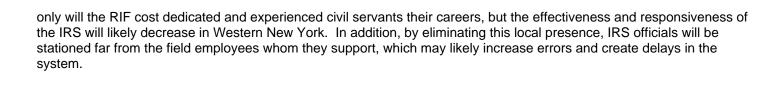
Voting to preserve community control over job training programs and to preserve the School-to-Work program, which is designed to help high school seniors make the transition to work.





Supporting Local Union Employers & Employees





Postal Employees: Rep. Slaughter has assisted several federal employees, including many letter carriers and postal workers, resolve their workers compensation difficulties. She helped one employee pursue a second opinion to certify her injury, while another was assisted in receiving an expedited authorization for a medical procedure.